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New competences to manage Urban Health: Health City Manager core curriculum

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Health as a common good is a prior essential objective to be pursued by an alliance including citizens and local administrations. Role of cities in health promotion is emphasized by urbanization, entailing 70% of the global population living in urban areas. Cities are therefore perfect laboratories within which to act: studying and monitoring dimensions that determine the level of quality of life in cities, improving their sustainability and capacity for growth, is fundamental for a new governance model able of managing this complexity. Under the premises, the Health City Manager (HCM) has been launched, a professional gaining skills in PH management, sociology of communities, urban design and control in reducing health inequalities. A course lasting 80 hours gives then the opportunity to put into practice, at municipal level, knowledge, competences and abilities achieved. In the background, both the former EU Commissioner for Health and the Committee of the Regions warmly supported the establishment of HCMs, who would coordinate a process ensuring alignment of policies on a macro and micro scale. During G7 in 2017, Ministry for Health and Presidency of Italian Municipalities signed the Urban Health Rome Declaration, underlining the need for a stronger synergy facilitated by HCMs. In 2019, Ministry of Youth and Sport approved and financed the project. On the basis of a core curriculum, validated by a group of experts, the course is starting in 2020 for the first 120 HCMs. Innovation lies in the holistic approach, a multidisciplinary project managing method overcoming silos logic. Customization of public policies and participatory process make the figure ideal to be applied in all countries. Sustainability is ensured by a relatively high return

on investment. Main impact relates to improvement of the quality of life through a full involvement and accountability of local administrations; contrast of climate change identifying strategies of urban resilience.

Key messages:

- Improvement of the quality of life through a full involvement and accountability of local administrations.
- Contrast of climate change identifying strategies of urban resilience.

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